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COUNTY COUNCIL

BILL NO. **79-11**  
AS AMENDED

OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 79-11 (AS AMENDED)

Introduced by Council Members Risacher and Hutchins and  
Council President Hardwicke at request of County Executive

Legislative Day No. 79-10 Date: April 3, 1979

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments, Division 11, heading, Economic Development Commission of Article XII, heading, Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees, of Chapter 2, heading, Administration, of the Harford County Code, to provide for the reorganization of the Economic Development Commission; to create an Office of Economic Development in the Executive Branch of the County Government, to provide for the creation of a new Economic Development Advisory Board; to provide for the membership of the Advisory Board; to provide for certain powers and duties relating to the performance of the Advisory Board; such as the recommendations of industrial sites for rezonings; and to generally provide for the reorganization of the Economic Development Commission.

By the Council, April 3, 1979

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: May 1, 1979

at: 7:00 P.M.

By Order: Angela Markowski, Secretary

#### PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and Notice of time and place of hearing and Title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on May 1, 1979 and concluded on May 1, 1979.

Angela Markowski, Secretary

BILL NO. **79-11**  
AS AMENDED

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Section 1. *Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford County, Maryland*, that Division 11, heading, Economic Development Commission of Article XII, heading, Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees, of Chapter 2, heading, Administration, of the Harford County Code, be, and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, all to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2. ADMINISTRATION.

ARTICLE XII. AGENCIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES.

Division 11. Office of Economic Development.

Section 2-204. Office; Created.

There shall be an office of Economic Development which shall be administered by the Economic Development Officer. The office shall be in the Executive Branch and subject to the direction, supervision, and control of the County Executive.

Section 2-205. Purpose of Office.

The Office of Economic Development is created for advancing the general economic welfare of the citizens of Harford County. The office shall establish programs and activities to develop Harford County's natural resources and economic opportunities pertaining to but not limited to commerce, industry, agriculture, forestry, transportation, travel, ~~tourism~~, and recreation AND TOURISM in Harford County. In addition, the office shall cooperate and offer assistance to existing industries and businesses in Harford County, and promote and encourage new industries to locate in Harford County. The office shall also consider other matters intended to foster and develop gainful employment of the citizens of Harford County.

Section 2-206. Powers, Duties.

(1) Investigate and assemble information pertinent to the economic resources and industrial opportunities of the County.

(2) Prepare ~~annual~~ LONG-TERM goals and objectives ANNUALLY for economic development in Harford County.

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1 (3) Disseminate information in the interest of industrial  
2 development by publication, advertising and other means.

3 (4) Cooperate with any Federal, State, local agency, board  
4 or commission, including the Economic Development Commission  
5 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT of Maryland, in  
6 the furtherance of its purpose.

7 (5) Cooperate with any interested private concern, civic  
8 organization or subdivision thereof in furtherance of its purposes.

9 (6) Such other duties as may be provided from time to time  
10 by directive of the County Executive or by legislative act.

11 (7) FUNCTION AS AN OMBUDSMAN FOR LOCAL BUSINESS.

12 (8) TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE NEW INDUSTRIES TO LOCATE IN  
13 HARFORD COUNTY.

14 Section 2-207. Economic Development Advisory Board; Created.

15 (a) There shall be an Economic Development Advisory Board.  
16 The Board shall consist of not less than nine (9) or more than  
17 fifteen (15) members, who shall be appointed by the County  
18 Executive and confirmed by the County Council in accordance with  
19 the Charter of Harford County. MEMBERS SHALL BE SELECTED  
20 BECAUSE OF THEIR KNOWN EXPERIENCE AND INTEREST IN THE ECONOMIC  
21 DEVELOPMENT OF HARFORD COUNTY. There shall be on the Board one  
22 (1) member chosen from A RECOGNIZED ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING each  
23 of the following industries: agriculture, banking, land developers,  
24 manufacturing, real estate, retailing, transportation, and tourism.  
25 These organizations representing the same category interest  
26 shall jointly send to the County Executive a list of not less  
27 than two (2) nor more than three (3) names of persons currently  
28 serving on their Board of Directors. There shall also be on the  
29 Board, two (2) members from the public, selected from very active  
30 public interest groups by the County Executive. There shall also  
31 be on the Board, members chosen from the public who should  
32 represent, but not be limited to represent the following occupations:

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1 laborers; farmers; clerical workers; professional and technical  
2 individuals; management and administration personnel. Members  
3 shall be selected because of their known experience and interest  
4 in the development of Harford County: RETAILING, AND TRANS-  
5 PORTATION/TOURISM. EACH OF SAID ASSOCIATION SHALL PROVIDE THE  
6 COUNTY EXECUTIVE WITH A LIST OF NOT LESS THAN TWO (2) NOR MORE  
7 THAN THREE (3) NAMES OF PERSONS CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE BOARD OF  
8 DIRECTORS OF SUCH ASSOCIATION. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL ALSO  
9 SELECT FOR INCLUSION ON THE BOARD TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM  
10 PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS SUCH AS, BUT NOT RESTRICTED TO, THE LEAGUE  
11 OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HARFORD COUNTY, THE HARFORD COUNTY CHAMBER OF  
12 COMMERCE, AND THE HARFORD COUNTY TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION.

13 Section 2-207.1. Tenure.

14 The members of the Board shall serve ~~terms coterminous with~~  
15 AT THE PLEASURE ~~that~~ of the County Executive. The County Executive  
16 shall select from the membership, a chairperson to serve a term  
17 of one (1) year and who may be eligible for re-election RE-APPOINT-  
18 MENT, provided that no one person shall hold the position of  
19 chairperson for more than three (3) consecutive terms. Upon the  
20 death, disability, resignation, or removal of any member of the  
21 Board, the County Executive shall appoint a person representing  
22 the same categoric interest to serve for the unexpired term.

23 Section 2-207.2. Meetings.

24 The Board shall meet ~~monthly~~ and shall REGULARLY AND MAY  
25 hold special meetings at the call of the chairperson or of any  
26 three (3) members of the Board. The Board shall adopt rules and  
27 regulations as it may deem necessary to govern its procedure and  
28 business. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum. Any  
29 member missing three (3) consecutive meetings without giving  
30 notice to the chairperson, shall MAY be asked to resign.

31 Section 2-207.3. Powers.

32 (a) The Advisory Board shall:

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1 (1) Review the budget of the Office of Economic  
2 Development on an annual basis and make recommendations to the  
3 head of the Office of Economic Development.

4 (2) Develop annually, goals and objectives that shall  
5 be filed with the Office of Economic Development and made available  
6 to the public. The annual goals and objectives report shall be  
7 recommendations for the improvement and advancement of the  
8 economic welfare of the people of Harford County.

9 (2) DEVELOP ANNUALLY, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE  
10 ADVISORY BOARD THAT SHALL SUPPORT AND COMPLEMENT THE COUNTY'S  
11 OVERALL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THESE  
12 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
13 AND PRESENTED TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR ENDORSEMENT AND SHALL BE  
14 FILED WITH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MADE AVAILABLE  
15 TO THE PUBLIC.

16 (3) Support and encourage location of new industrial  
17 enterprises in the County and the expansions of present enterprises.

18 (4) Support and encourage the development of recre-  
19 ational areas, tourist business in the County.

20 (5) Work with the County Executive and the County  
21 Council of Harford County in order to improve the potential of  
22 economic development of Harford County.

23 (6) REVIEW LEGISLATION AND POLICY DECISIONS IN ORDER  
24 TO IDENTIFY THE IMPACT THEY HAVE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN  
25 HARFORD COUNTY.

26 Section 2-207.4. Additional Board Authority; Designate Rezonings.

27 (a) In addition to the above powers and duties, the Advisory  
28 Board shall have the authority to recommend a rezoning of parcel(s);  
29 or tract(s) of land for industrial use to include the following  
30 classifications: light industrial district (M-1); general  
31 industrial district (M-2); industrial park district (IP); and  
32 industrial air park district (IAP). This additional authority

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1 shall become effect upon the adoption of enabling legislation by  
2 the County Council; and subject to termination when the County  
3 adopts a comprehensive rezoning plan.

4 (b) In determining whether a rezoning should be recommended,  
5 the Board shall apply the following criteria:

6 (1) The parcel(s) or tract(s) or a group of contiguous  
7 parcel(s) or tract(s) of land shall be a minimum of fifty (50)  
8 acres:

9 (2) Whether the proposed use complies with the Harford  
10 County Zoning Ordinance applicable to light industrial district  
11 (M-1); general industrial district (M-2); industrial park district  
12 (IP); and industrial air park district (IAP):

13 (3) The relationship of the proposed use to the  
14 Harford County Master Land Use Plan:

15 (4) The compatibility of the proposed use to the  
16 surrounding land use and/or zonings:

17 (5) The most appropriate use of the land and structures:

18 (6) Whether the parcel(s) or tract(s) are adequately  
19 serviceable by air, rail, water, or highway transportation:

20 (c) The owner(s) or contract purchaser(s) of the parcel(s)  
21 or tract(s) or contiguous parcel(s) or tract(s) of land shall  
22 file a request for the rezoning with the Economic Development  
23 Advisory Board. The Board shall forward their request to the  
24 Department of Planning and Zoning for review. A report on the  
25 rezoning request shall be prepared by the Department of Planning  
26 and Zoning, and shall be forwarded to the Board within thirty  
27 (30) calendar days upon receipt of the information required:

28 (d) At the time of the request, the owner(s) or contract  
29 purchaser(s) shall submit, in duplicate to the Board, a fiscal  
30 impact study and site plan. The owner(s) or contract purchaser(s)  
31 shall also provide any other documents, plans and/or studies that  
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are to be required in order for the Department of Planning and Zoning to assess the zoning request.

(e) The rezoning shall be conditional upon the development being in substantial compliance with the intent of the site plans and other required conditions of the rezoning. After review and a positive recommendation by the Board, the Board with the consent of the owner(s) or contract purchaser(s), shall initiate an application for rezoning on behalf of Harford County, Maryland, for processing in accordance with established procedures governing rezonings. The owner(s) or contract purchaser(s) shall be responsible for all fees, costs, and expenses.

(f) The rezoning required pursuant to this section shall be valid for a period of two (2) years. If construction has not commenced during the two (2) year period, then the tract(s) or parcel(s) of land shall revert to the original zoning designation that was in effect at the time the rezoning request was instituted, or to the designation indicated on the Comprehensive Rezoning Map. However, upon approval by the Board, the owner(s) or contract purchaser(s) may receive a one (1) time extension, not to exceed a two (2) year period.

(g) The Office of Economic Development shall handle the administrative functions necessary to carry out the intent of this section. The Council may, at its discretion, recommend certain parcel(s) or tract(s) of land to be rezoned, subject to the provisions of this section.

Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that if any section, clause, phrase, word, provision or particular application of this Act is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such section, clause, phrase, word, provision or particular application shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision or application and

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1 such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining  
2 provision or subsequent application thereof.

3 Section 3. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that this Act shall take  
4 effect sixty (60) calendar days from the date it becomes law.

5 EFFECTIVE: August 6, 1979  
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BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed LSD 79-17 (May 29, 1979) (with amendments)

~~Failed on Passage~~

By order

Angela Markowski, Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive  
for his approval this 31st day of May, 1979  
at Three o'clock P.M.

Angela Markowski, Secretary



BY THE EXECUTIVE

APPROVED:

J. Thomas Farrington  
County Executive  
Date 6/5/79

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive  
and returned to the Council, becomes law on June 5, 1979.

Angela Markowski, Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 6, 1979

Rec'd & Recorded 8/1 1979 at 3:16 P.M.  
H.D. Liber 5 Folio 270 & examined per  
H. Douglas Chilcoat, Clerk, Harford Co.